ACT Government
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development

Freedom of Information Disclosure Log Publication Coversheet

The following information is provided pursuant to section 28 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*.

Application Details	
Ref. No.	2026-170
Date of Application	1 July 2026
Date of Decision	6 August 2026
Processing time (in working days)	26
Fees	Waived
Decision on Access	Partial Release
Information Requested (summary)	"I seek access to all documents created, received or held in the preparation of the response to Question on Notice No. 1193.Date range: 1 May 2026 to 30 June 2026."

Publication Details	
Original application	☑ Published ☐ N/A
Decision notice	☑ Published ☐ N/A
Documents and schedule	☑ Published ☐ N/A
Decision made by Ombudsman	N/A
Additional information identified by Ombudsman	N/A
Decision made by ACAT	N/A
Additional information identified by ACAT	N/A

From: [redacted]
To: CMTEDD FOI
Subject: CMTEDDFOI 2026-170 - ACT Government"s investment in ACTivate Capital
Date: Wednesday, 1 July 2026 2:27:50 PM
Attachments: [redacted]

Freedom of Information Application

Applicant: [redacted]

Agency: Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (Economic Development Division)

Documents Requested

I seek access under the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* to the following documents relating to the ACT Government's investment in ACTivate Capital.

Documents relating to Question on Notice 1193

I seek access to all documents created, received or held in the preparation of the response to Question on Notice No. 1193, including but not limited to:

1. All emails between CMETD officers and ACTivate Capital, EpiCorp GP Pty Ltd, the General Partner, Fund Manager or their representatives regarding the Question on Notice.
2. All emails between CMETD officers and the Chief Minister's Office relating to the preparation of the response.
3. All internal emails discussing the preparation of the response.
4. All briefing notes.
5. All draft responses.
6. All tracked changes versions.
7. Comments or review notes.
8. Internal legal advice (excluding any material over which legal professional privilege is claimed).
9. Records of telephone discussions, file notes or meeting notes.
10. Any request sent to the Fund Manager seeking information to answer the QON.
11. Any response received from the Fund Manager.
12. Any documents explaining why information about salaries or employee-related expenses was unavailable or not provided.
13. Any documents discussing whether the Territory has contractual rights to obtain salary, remuneration or employee expense information.
14. Any documents discussing the reporting obligations contained in the ACT Venture Capital Licence.
15. Any ministerial submission or executive briefing prepared for approval of the final response.

Date range:

1 May 2026 to 30 June 2026.

Kind regards,

ACT
Government
Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Our ref: CMTEDDFOI 2026-170

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – NOTICE OF DECISION

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the Act), received by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) on 1 July 2026. Specifically, you have sought the following information:

"I seek access to all documents created, received or held in the preparation of the response to Question on Notice No. 1193, including but not limited to:

1. *All emails between CMETD officers and ACTivate Capital, EpiCorp GP Pty Ltd, the General Partner, Fund Manager or their representatives regarding the Question on Notice.*
2. *All emails between CMETD officers and the Chief Minister's Office relating to the preparation of the response.*
3. *All internal emails discussing the preparation of the response.*
4. *All briefing notes.*
5. *All draft responses.*
6. *All tracked changes versions.*
7. *Comments or review notes.*
8. *Internal legal advice (excluding any material over which legal professional privilege is claimed).*
9. *Records of telephone discussions, file notes or meeting notes.*
10. *Any request sent to the Fund Manager seeking information to answer the QON.*
11. *Any response received from the Fund Manager.*
12. *Any documents explaining why information about salaries or employee-related expenses was unavailable or not provided.*
13. *Any documents discussing whether the Territory has contractual rights to obtain salary, remuneration or employee expense information.*
14. *Any documents discussing the reporting obligations contained in the ACT Venture Capital Licence.*
15. *Any ministerial submission or executive briefing prepared for approval of the final response.*

Date range:
1 May 2026 to 30 June 2026."

Authority

I am an Information Officer appointed by the CMTEDD Director-General under section 18 of the Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the Act.

Timeframes

In accordance with section 40 of the Act, CMTEDD is required to provide a decision on your access application within 30 days.

Therefore, a decision is due by **12 August 2026.**

Decision on access

Searches within **CMTEDD** records have identified ten documents within the scope of your request.

I have decided to grant full access to nine documents.

I have decided to grant partial access to two documents.

The records identified as relevant to your application are listed in the schedule enclosed at **Attachment A**. This provides a description of each document that falls within the scope of your request and the access decision for each of those documents.

I have decided to grant **partial access** to the information within the document.

Release of documents

The information being released to you is provided at **Attachment B**.

Statement of Reasons

In accordance with section 54(2) of the Act a statement of reasons outlining my decisions is below. In reaching my access decisions, I have taken the following into account:

- the Act
- the information that falls within the scope of your request
- *Health Records (Privacy and Access) Act 1997*
- *Information Privacy Act 2014*
- *Human Rights Act 2004.*

As a decision maker, I am required to determine whether the information within scope is in the public interest to release. To make this decision, I am required to:

- assess whether the information would be contrary to public interest to disclose as per **Schedule 1** of the Act.
- perform the public interest test as set out in section 17 of the Act by balancing the factors favouring disclosure and factors favouring nondisclosure in **Schedule 2** of the Act.

Exemptions claimed

Schedule 1: Information taken to be contrary to the public interest.

No Schedule 1 factors were identified.

Public Interest Test

The Act has a presumption in favour of disclosure. As a decision maker I am required to decide where, on balance, public interest lies. As part of this process, I must consider factors favouring disclosure and nondisclosure.

In *Hogan v Hinch* (2011) 243 CLR 506, [31] French CJ stated that when 'used in a statute, the term [public interest] derives its content from "the subject matter and the scope and purpose" of the enactment in which it appears'. Section 17(1) of the Act sets out the test, to be applied to determine whether disclosure of information would be contrary to the public interest. These factors are found in subsection 17(2) and Schedule 2 of the Act.

Schedule 2: Factors to be considered when deciding the public interest.

Taking into consideration the information within scope of your request, I have identified that the following public interest factors are relevant to determine if release of the information contained within these documents is within the 'public interest'.

Factors favouring disclosure (Sch 2, s 2.1)

- *Section 2.1(a)(i) - promote open discussion of public affairs and enhance the government's accountability.*
- *Section 2.1(a)(ii) - contribute to positive and informed debate on important issues or matters of public interest.*
- *Section 2.1(a)(iv) - ensure effective oversight of expenditure of public funds.*

The subject of this Question on Notice could reasonably promote discussion of public affairs and contribute to positive and informed delate on matters of public interest including backing by ACT government of ACTivate Capital and the flow on for Canberra-based companies. Having considered the factors identified as relevant in this matter, I consider that release of information contained in these documents carry significant weight regarding the public interest.

I am satisfied that these factors favouring disclosure carry some weight. However, these factors are to be balanced against the factors favouring nondisclosure.

Factors favouring nondisclosure (Sch 2, s 2.2)

- *Section 2.2(a)(ii) - prejudice the protection of an individual's right to privacy or any other right under the Human Rights Act 2004.*

Having reviewed the documents, I consider the protection of an individual's right to privacy is a significant factor. I have decided that their right to privacy in relation to their personal information has a higher weighting not to disclose, than the public interest has in disclosing this information. I am of the view that disclosure of names, signatures and contact information, where they are not already publicly available could prejudice their individual rights to privacy under the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Having applied the test outlined in section 17 of the Act and deciding that release of some information contained in the documents is not in the public interest to release, I have chosen to redact this specific information in accordance with section 50(2). Noting the pro-disclosure intent of the Act, I am satisfied that redacting only the information that I believe is not in the public interest to release will ensure that the intent of the Act is met and will provide you with access to the majority of the information held by CMTEDD within the scope of your request.

Charges

Under section 107(2)(e) of the Act, a fee must be waived if the applicant is a member of the Legislative Assembly.

Online publishing – Disclosure Log

Under section 28 of the Act, CMTEDD maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log.

Your original access application and my decision will be published on the CMTEDD disclosure log. Your personal contact details will not be published.

Ombudsman Review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the Act. You have the right to seek Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is provided to you, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

We recommend using this form *Applying for an Ombudsman Review* to ensure you provide all of the required information. Alternatively, you may write to the Ombudsman:

The ACT Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Via email: actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) Review

Under section 84 of the Act, if a decision is made under section 82(1) on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision. Further information may be obtained from the ACAT:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal
GPO Box 370
Canberra City ACT 2601
Telephone: (02) 6207 1740
http://www.acat.act.gov.au/

Should you have any queries in relation to your request please contact the CMTEDD FOI Team by telephone on 6207 7754 or email CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Katharine Stuart

Information Officer
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

6 August 2026

ACT Government
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST SCHEDULE

WHAT ARE THE PARAMETERS OF THE REQUEST	Reference NO.
"I seek access to all documents created, received or held in the preparation of the response to Question on Notice No. 1193, including but not limited to: ***1. All emails between CMETD officers and ACTivate Capital, EpiCorp GP Pty Ltd, the General Partner, Fund Manager or their representatives regarding the Question on Notice.*** ***2. All emails between CMETD officers and the Chief Minister's Office relating to the preparation of the response.*** ***3. All internal emails discussing the preparation of the response.*** ***4. All briefing notes.*** ***5. All draft responses.*** ***6. All tracked changes versions.*** ***7. Comments or review notes.*** ***8. Internal legal advice (excluding any material over which legal professional privilege is claimed).*** ***9. Records of telephone discussions, file notes or meeting notes.*** ***10. Any request sent to the Fund Manager seeking information to answer the QON.*** ***11. Any response received from the Fund Manager.*** ***12. Any documents explaining why information about salaries or employee-related expenses was unavailable or not provided.*** ***13. Any documents discussing whether the Territory has contractual rights to obtain salary, remuneration or employee expense information.*** ***14. Any documents discussing the reporting obligations contained in the ACT Venture Capital Licence.*** ***15. Any ministerial submission or executive briefing prepared for approval of the final response.*** ***Date range:*** ***1 May 2026 to 30 June 2026."***	**CMTEDDFOI 2026-170**

Ref No	Page number	Description	Date	Status	Reason for Exemption	Online Release Status
1	1-2	(Revision 2) Assembly QON 1193 - Cain to Barr - ACTivate Capital salaries	29 May 2026	Full Release		Yes
2	3-4	(Revision 3) Assembly QON 1193 - Cain to Barr - ACTivate Capital salaries	29 May 2026	Full Release		Yes
3	5-6	(Revision 4) Assembly QON 1193 - Cain to Barr - ACTivate Capital salaries	29 May 2026	Full Release		Yes
4	7-8	(Revision 5) Assembly QON 1193 - Cain to Barr - ACTivate Capital salaries	29 May 2026	Full Release		Yes
5	9-10	(Revision 6) Assembly QON 1193 - Cain to Barr - ACTivate Capital salaries	29 May 2026	Full Release		Yes
6	11-12	(Revision 7) Assembly QON 1193 - Cain to Barr - ACTivate Capital salaries	29 May 2026	Full Release		Yes
7	13-15	Email correspondence: Re: Question on Notice	9 June 2026	Partial Release	Schedule 2.2aii	Yes
8	16	Extract of Microsoft Teams messages	10 June 2026	Partial Release	Schedule 2.2aii	Yes
9	17	Email correspondence: QON 1193 - Cain to Barr - ACTivate Capital salaries	24 June 2026	Full Release		Yes
10	18	Content manager Notes	9 June 2026 – 9 July 2026	Full Release	Outside Scope	Yes
Total No of Docs						
10						

Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister
Minister for Economic Development
Minister for Tourism and Trade

Member for Kurrajong

Response to question on notice

Questions on Notice Paper No 20
29 MAY 2026
Question No. 1193

PETER CAIN MLA: To ask the Chief Minister

1. How much has ACTivate Capital, spent on salaries and employee-related expenses in 2025–2026 year to date.

2. Which companies has ACTivate Capital invested in or committed funding to since establishment and what was the value of each investment or commitment.

3. How many companies has ACTivate Capital undertaken initial due diligence on since establishment.

4. How many companies has ACTivate Capital undertaken extensive or full due diligence on since establishment.

5. What (a) benchmarking, (b) market comparison, (c) recruitment advice and (d) remuneration framework does ACTivate Capital use to determine staff salaries and remuneration levels.

ANDREW BARR MLA - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. Under the ACT Venture Capital – Licence between the Territory and EpiCorp GP Pty Ltd (General Partner) the General Partner is not required to report salaries and employee expenses. This is a matter for the Fund Manager.
2. No investments have been reported to date.
3. The licence does not require reporting on pipeline activity. However, I have been advised by the Fund Manager that since I launched the ACTivate Capital Fund on 3 November 2025, the Fund has met with and assessed 75 businesses. Of these, nine progressed to initial diligence.
4. I have been advised by the Fund Manager that two businesses have advanced to full due diligence, which is currently in progress.
5. This is a matter for the Fund Manager.

ACT Legislative Assembly
London Circuit, GPO Box 1020,
Canberra ACT 2601

+61 2 6205 0011
barr@act.gov.au

ABarrMLA
andrewbarrmla

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.   **Andrew Barr MLA** **Chief Minister** **Date:**
This response required XXhrs XXmins to complete, at an approximate cost of $XXX.

Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister
Minister for Economic Development
Minister for Tourism and Trade

Member for Kurrajong

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2. The Fund Manager is progressing through the deal sourcing phase and no investments have been reported to date.
3. The licence does not require reporting on pipeline activity. However, I have been advised by the Fund Manager that since I launched the ACTivate Capital Fund on 3 November 2025, the Fund has met with and assessed 75 businesses. Of these, nine have progressed to initial diligence.
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5. This is a matter for the Fund Manager.

Commented [SW1]: ACTivate Capital has no issue with these figures being disclosed.

act.gov.au

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ABarrMLA
andrewbarrmla

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This response required XXhrs XXmins to complete, at an approximate cost of $XXX.

Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister
Minister for Economic Development
Minister for Tourism and Trade

Member for Kurrajong

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This response required XXhrs XXmins to complete, at an approximate cost of $XXX.

Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister
Minister for Economic Development
Minister for Tourism and Trade

Member for Kurrajong

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2. The Fund Manager is progressing through the deal sourcing phase and no investments have been reported to date.
3. I have been advised by the Fund Manager that since I launched the ACTivate Capital Fund on 3 November 2025, the Fund has met with and assessed 75 businesses. Of these, nine have progressed to initial due diligence.
4. I have been advised by the Fund Manager that two businesses have advanced to full due diligence, which is currently in progress.
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This response required XXhrs XXmins to complete, at an approximate cost of $XXX.

From: "Chick, Brent"
Sent: 09/06/2026 4:35 PM
To: "Sch 2.2(a)(ii)" <Sch 2.2(a)(ii)@activatecapital.com.au>
Cc: "Sch 2.2(a)(ii)" <Sch 2.2(a)@activatecapital.com.au>; "Watson, Richard" <Richard.Watson@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Question on Notice

Perfect. Thank you

From: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) <Sch 2.2(a)(ii)@activatecapital.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 9 June 2026 4:15 PM
To: Chick, Brent <Brent.Chick@act.gov.au>
Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) <Sch 2.2(a)@activatecapital.com.au>; Watson, Richard <Richard.Watson@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Question on Notice

Hi Brent,

Since the Chief Minister launched the ACTivate Capital Fund on 3 November 2025, we have met with and assessed 75 businesses. Of these, 9 progressed to initial diligence, with 2 subsequently advancing to full due diligence, which is currently in progress.

Kind regards,
Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
COO

ACTIVATE CAPITAL

ACTivate CAPITAL
Level 4, 1 Moore Street, Office 15
Canberra ACT 2601
Australia

Mobile: Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
Website: www.activatecapital.com.au

From: Chick, Brent <Brent.Chick@act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 9 June 2026 2:06 PM
To: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) <Sch 2.2(a)(ii)@activatecapital.com.au>
Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) <Sch 2.2(a)@activatecapital.com.au>; Watson, Richard <Richard.Watson@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Question on Notice

OFFICIAL

Thanks Sch 2.2(a)(ii). I think if you are happy to provide some information on the pipeline that would be good. Would show significant progress is being made. Given we are working through the board information issue I want to try keep that separate so if you are happy to pull something out and send it through that would be good.

Brent

From: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) <Sch 2.2(a)(ii)@activatecapital.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 9 June 2026 1:55 PM
To: Chick, Brent <Brent.Chick@act.gov.au>
Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) <Sch 2.2(a)@activatecapital.com.au>; Watson, Richard <Richard.Watson@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Question on Notice

> **Caution:** This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Brent,

Thanks for your email. We are happy with your responses. In the role of Board Observer ACT Government employees have received information about the pipeline activity so if you would like me to provide this to you please let me know (I'll leave this up to you to decide).

Thanks,
Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
COO

ACTIVATE CAPITAL

ACTivate CAPITAL
Level 4, 1 Moore Street, Office 15
Canberra ACT 2601
Australia

Mobile: Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
Website: www.activatecapital.com.au

From: Chick, Brent <Brent.Chick@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 4 June 2026 10:35 AM
To: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) <Sch 2.2(a)(ii)@activatecapital.com.au>
Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) <Sch 2.2(a@activatecapital.com.au>; Watson, Richard <Richard.Watson@act.gov.au>
Subject: Question on Notice

OFFICIAL

Hi Sch 2.2(a)(ii),

We received a QON from Peter Cain. I just wanted to confirm with you my thinking below against each question.

1. How much has ACTivate Capital, spent on salaries and employee-related expenses in 2025–2026 year to date. Under the ACT Venture Capital – Licence between the Territory and EpiCorp GP Pty Ltd (General Partner) the General Partner is not required to report salaries and employee expenses. This is a matter for the Fund Manager

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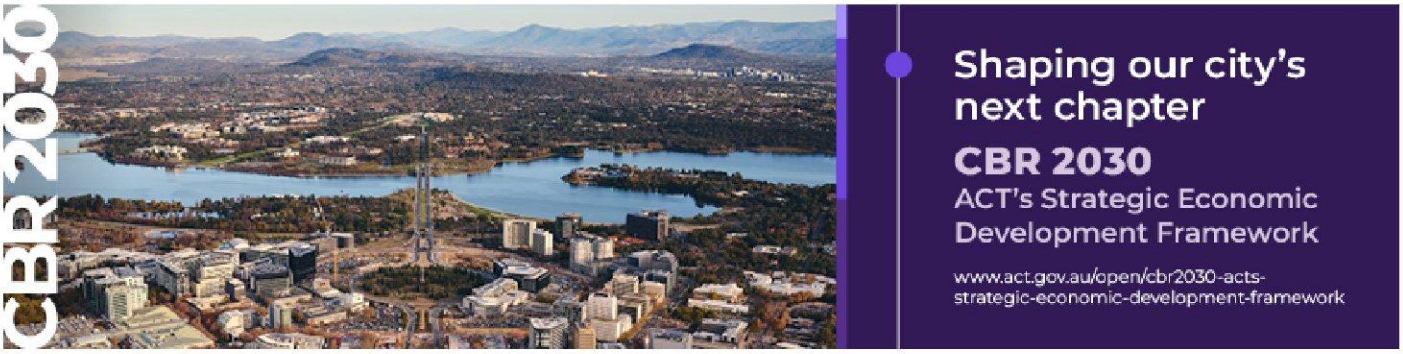
3. How many companies has ACTivate Capital undertaken initial due diligence on since establishment. The licence does not require reporting on pipeline activity. This is a matter for the Fund Manager. [unless you are happy to provide?]

4. How many companies has ACTivate Capital undertaken extensive or full due diligence on since establishment. The licence does not require reporting on pipeline activity. This is a matter for the Fund Manager. [unless you are happy to provide?]
5. What (a) benchmarking, (b) market comparison, (c) recruitment advice and (d) remuneration framework does ACTivate Capital use to determine staff salaries and remuneration levels. This is a matter for the Fund Manager.

Thanks

Brent Chick
Executive Officer to Kate Starick, acting Deputy Director-General
Economic Development
T: MS Teams | E: brent.chick@act.gov.au
L3, 220 London Circuit, Canberra City ACT 2601
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government



10/06 12:27 pm

Hi Brent, do you mind checking with ACTivate whether they have any concerns with the figures being provided in the QON response?

Sch 2.2(a)(ii) Chick, Brent 10/06 12:29 pm

They provided them so already checked. I provided my draft response to them for review and for the due diligence ones I had nothing but asked if they were comfortable.

10/06 12:29 pm

oh good so they have no issues with it being in the public domain?

Sch 2.2(a)(ii) Chick, Brent 10/06 12:30 pm

Nope. I knew we had them but it wasn't our place so I asked for them to provide what they were comfortable with

10/06 12:30 pm

perfect - thank you

10/06 12:57 pm

I've made a slight edit to the answer to Q2 - are you okay with this?
The Fund Manager is progressing through the deal sourcing phase and no investments have been reported to date.

Sch 2.2(a)(ii) Chick, Brent 10/06 1:06 pm

sounds good to me

From: "CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO"
Sent: 24/06/2026 2:40 PM
To: "Raj, Mallika" <Mallika.Raj@act.gov.au>
Subject: QON 1193 - Cain to Barr - ACTivate Capital salaries

Hi Mallika

Please find saved HERE **QON 1193 - Cain to Barr - ACTivate Capital salaries**.

Critical date: 28 June 2026

Kind regards,
Elise

Elise Garrity | Directorate Liaison Officer – Economic Development
Office of the Chief Minister | Office of Minister Berry | Office of Minister Pettersson
Phone: via MS Teams | Email: EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | **ACT Government**
GPO Box 158, Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au

ACT Government

CMTEDD - Brief Container - CMTEDD2026/2076

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Outside Scope

"Friday, 26 June 2026 at 12:20:44 PM (GMT+10:00) Garrity, Elise:"
Signed by the Chief Minister and returned to the Directorate. Lodged in the portal

"Wednesday, 24 June 2026 at 2:55:59 PM (GMT+10:00) Garrity, Elise:"
Fwd to MO (MR)

"Wednesday, 24 June 2026 at 10:16:06 AM (GMT+10:00) Fisk, Kaye:"
Emailed to ED DLO

"Wednesday, 24 June 2026 at 9:44:36 AM (GMT+10:00) Barlow, Grant:"
QA on way out, costing tool updated progressed on a/g EGM & a/g DDG clearance

"Tuesday, 23 June 2026 at 5:32:59 PM (GMT+10:00) Starick, Kate:"
cleared

"Friday, 19 June 2026 at 3:08:25 PM (GMT+10:00) Kobus, Jonathan:"
cleared JK

"Friday, 19 June 2026 at 3:08:14 PM (GMT+10:00) Kobus, Jonathan:"
updated and confirmed responses are matters for fund manager

"Tuesday, 16 June 2026 at 5:00:03 PM (GMT+10:00) Barlow, Grant:"
Returned as per below note, email sent to notify

"Tuesday, 16 June 2026 at 4:26:34 PM (GMT+10:00) Starick, Kate:"
return to EGM - please seek advice about writing to the Fund Manager for information

"Monday, 15 June 2026 at 12:32:51 PM (GMT+10:00) Kobus, Jonathan:"
cleared JK

"Tuesday, 9 June 2026 at 4:45:12 PM (GMT+10:00) Chick, Brent:"
Drafted. Consulted Fund Manager

Add Notes

<Enter an update comment for the audit log>

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